

League Academy of Communication Arts

125 Twin Lake Road
Greenville, SC 29609

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	800 Students	
Principal	Merry L. Cox	864-355-8100
Superintendent	Mr. Burke Royster	864-355-3100
Board Chair	Mr. Chuck Saylor	803-360-3527

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2014 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2014	Excellent	Excellent
2013	Excellent	Good
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Excellent
2010	Good	Good

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student SC PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2013-14 whose 2012-13 test scores were located

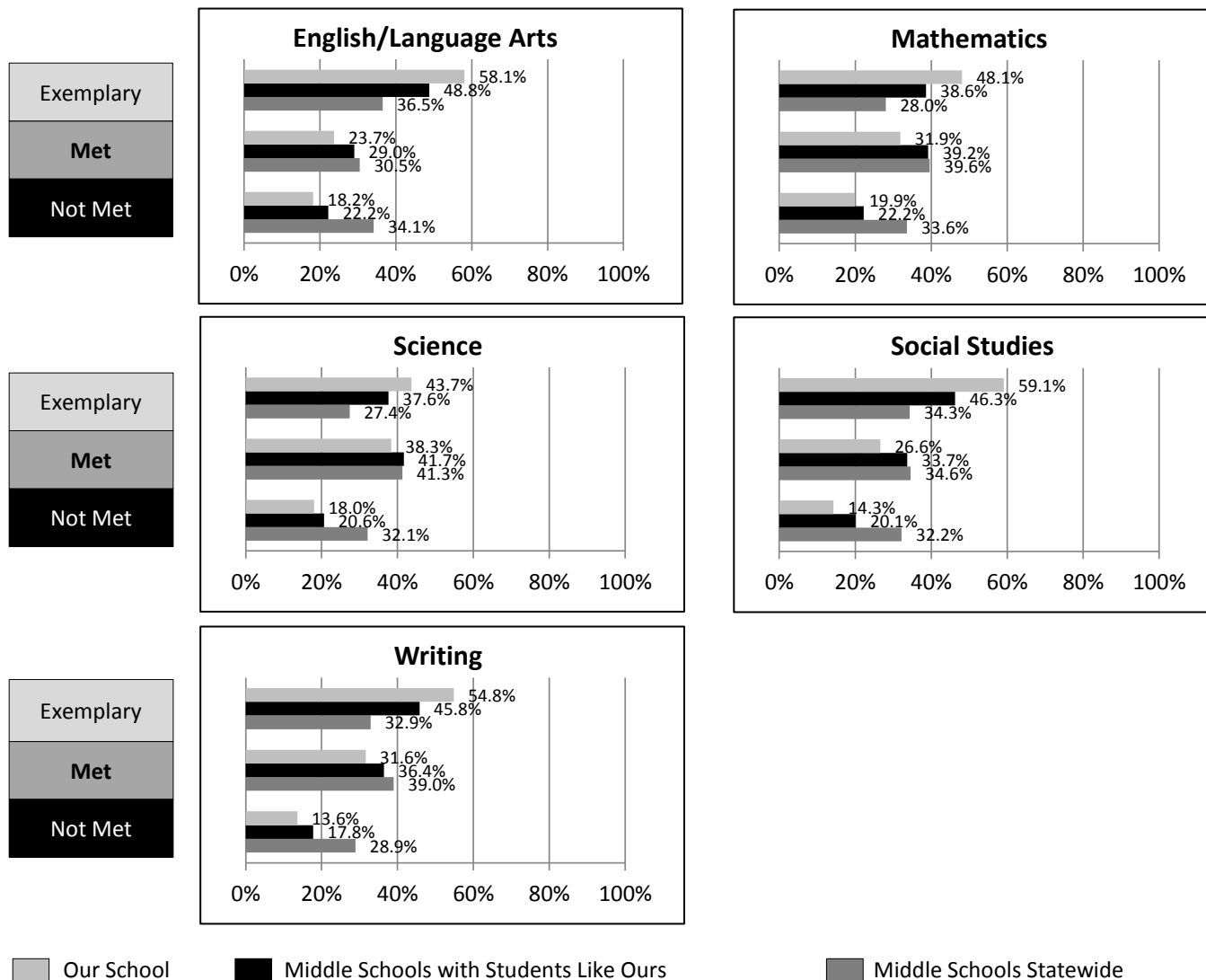
96.7%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
20	6	4	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015.

South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SC PASS)



* Middle Schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n = 800)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	36.8%	Down from 48.2%	46.0%	26.0%
Retention Rate	1.3%	Down from 1.7%	0.3%	0.6%
Attendance Rate	96.5%	Down from 96.8%	96.7%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	39.3%	Up from 38.1%	28.7%	19.4%
With disabilities	10.5%	Up from 9.5%	10.6%	12.8%
Older than usual for grade	3.0%	Up from 2.4%	2.8%	4.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	Down from 1.3%	0.2%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n = 47)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	68.1%	Up from 62.5%	67.8%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	76.6%	Down from 85.4%	82.5%	75.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	83.6%	Down from 89.6%	87.2%	85.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.5%	Up from 94.1%	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,358	Down 0.6%	\$48,454	\$47,081
Professional development days/teacher	8.5 days	Down from 11.7 days	8.7 days	10.6 days
School				
Principal's years at school	13.0	Up from 12.0	4.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	25.6 to 1	Up from 24.8 to 1	24.1 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.5%	No change	90.7%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.1%	Up from 98.2%	99.3%	99.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,919	Up 7.9%	\$6,912	\$7,616
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	63.0%	No change	63.7%	62.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	62.3%	Up from 62.0%	63.1%	61.3%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	98.4%
English 1	99.1%	94.3%
Biology 1	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	100.0%
All Subjects	99.4%	98.2%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

League Academy of Communication Arts was named a National "School to Watch" in March of 2011, and this prestigious award has launched us forward into even more possibilities. Our motto of "Hands on Today, Eyes on Tomorrow," and our mission statement of "Challenge – Create – Communicate!" truly describe our school in just a few words. League is an exciting place to teach and learn. League is a magnet school with a student body of almost 800 students, comprised of about two thirds home-based students and one third magnet students. Our poverty index is a little over 50%. Our diversity lies in many areas: ethnicity, socio-economics, educational experiences, and life experiences and opportunities, which makes League a melting pot of life experiences. It also creates a unique task for our teachers to work to move ALL students forward in their educational journey. We continue to work to raise the academic challenge and performance for each student at League and to provide a school environment supportive of learning, all the while striving to integrate a high quality arts program into our curriculum.

Our longitudinal PASS scores in ELA and MATH show a continued increase in the number of students meeting or exceeding standard. Our professional staff has qualified teachers and staff members. We have increased involvement in our PTA and our School Improvement Council. The PTA and SIC members have worked together to secure a crossing guard and a new crosswalk for our students to ensure their safety as they enter and leave our campus. Through the SIC, the "Dr. Richard Maag Arts Integration Award" was given to a teacher for the use of exceptional arts integration practices.

As we worked through the National Schools to Watch school improvement process, we realized that League has a long history of "firsts," including the first middle school in GCS to win the "Palmetto's Finest Award" in 1981, the first middle school in GCS to win the "National Blue Ribbon Award" in 1982, the first GCS middle school to win the "Red Carpet Award" in 2005 and the first middle school in GCS to become a "School to Watch." What a history of excellence! We began the first middle school W.A.T.C.H. Dog program, designed to bring dads into the school. These things have not happened by accident. We train constantly using data to drive our instruction, using teachers' expertise and leadership in hiring staff members, using quality instructional strategies learned through Learning-Focused training and the use of Baldrige Quality tools and using technology and arts to push our staff and students forward. During the 13-14 school year, our students were recognized at the school, district, state and national level for their work in academic areas and in the arts. Our showcases in dance, drama, art, strings, band and choral work are truly extraordinary.

Our school portfolio is a dynamic school improvement plan that guides our work. Our mission, vision and goals are stated and are used to help raise student achievement. Please visit our website at <http://greenville.k12.sc.us/league> to learn more about League. "Challenge – Create – Communicate!" is what we will continue to do!

Merry L. Cox, Principal; John Kaup, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	50	226	86
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.0%	77.9%	88.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	98.0%	81.2%	86.1%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	92.0%	84.3%	73.3%

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	87.2
Overall Grade Conversion	B

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the states' expectations.

Accountability Indicator (Title I Schools)

League Academy of Communication Arts has been designated as a:

	Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
	Title I Reward School for Progress - one of the schools with substantial progress in school subgroups.
	Title I Focus School - one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
	Title I Priority School - one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
	Title I School - does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
X	Non-Title I School - therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.2	3.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.8	7.3%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.1%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	96.5%	94.0%*	Yes

	State
Professional qualifications of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State (Advanced Degrees)	61.9%
Percentage of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State with emergency or provisional credentials	0.0%

* Or greater than last year

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SC PASS Performance By Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean*	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested
Grades 6-8							
All Students	651.6	654.5	651.6	664.9	99.9	99.7	99.8
Male	641.4	652.3	653.0	666.7	100.0	99.7	100.0
Female	659.3	656.1	650.6	663.5	99.8	99.8	99.7
White	669.8	669.0	668.1	682.5	100.0	100.0	100.0
African American	617.4	620.4	615.9	631.2	99.5	98.9	99.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	628.3	664.8	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	N/A
Hispanic	634.3	641.2	633.8	639.6	100.0	100.0	100.0
American Indian/Alaskan Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	566.0	574.9	572.7	592.4	98.8	98.8	98.1
Limited English Proficient	617.3	634.3	619.9	637.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
Subsidized Meals	624.8	628.8	624.5	638.7	99.7	99.4	99.5
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Two Year Elementary and Middle School Grades Trend Data

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
2013	3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	278	658.4	100.0	278	659.7	99.6
	7	249	652.1	100.0	249	655.6	100.0
	8	236	659.7	100.0	236	653.4	100.0
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	139	650.2	100.0	138	662.9	100.0
	7	249	641.1	100.0	249	656.9	100.0
	8	119	655.4	100.0	117	677.1	100.0

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
2014	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	259	651.9	100.0	258	644.8	98.9
	7	273	654.9	99.6	273	661.5	99.3
	8	247	647.6	100.0	247	656.8	99.2
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	128	648.6	99.2	130	673.1	98.5
	7	273	650.2	99.3	273	663.0	99.3
	8	124	657.9	100.0	123	660.2	98.4

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

NOTE: Results include the SC-ALT test.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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I/S-Insufficient Sample

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (District)							4/27/2015	2301078
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Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies*/ History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	653.2	656.8	635.5	654.3	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
Male	648.2	656.6	636.6	655.4	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
Female	658.6	657.0	634.3	653.2	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
White	667.1	672.0	650.8	665.7	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
African American	627.0	624.4	607.2	631.6	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	682.1	699.7	661.2	682.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Hispanic	635.0	640.4	616.0	640.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	658.7	663.3	638.6	662.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
With Disabilities	605.9	602.3	592.0	615.3	99.9	99.9	99.8	N/A
Limited English Proficient	638.0	648.1	620.5	642.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized Meals	632.4	632.1	614.4	634.8	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 6 - 8								
All Students	634.8	639.1	642.2	645.5	99.9	100.0	99.9	N/A
Male	627.4	637.8	642.8	648.2	99.9	100.0	99.8	N/A
Female	642.5	640.6	641.5	642.7	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
White	649.3	653.0	658.7	658.8	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
African American	607.1	609.2	609.1	618.1	99.9	99.9	99.8	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	664.5	687.8	680.0	682.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Hispanic	615.9	623.3	623.3	629.6	100.0	100.0	99.9	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	641.9	643.7	645.0	657.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
With Disabilities	576.3	584.3	585.8	593.5	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
Limited English Proficient	615.6	626.9	624.2	632.1	99.9	100.0	99.9	N/A
Subsidized Meals	612.4	616.2	617.8	622.9	99.9	99.9	99.8	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 9 - 12								
All Students	233.8	226.3	84.8	78.0	99.7	99.6	100.0	82.5
Male	229.9	226.4	85.0	78.9	99.6	99.4	100.0	78.6
Female	237.8	226.2	84.5	77.1	99.7	99.8	100.0	86.7
White	239.4	233.0	88.2	80.6	99.7	99.7	100.0	86.5
African American	221.9	210.7	77.4	72.3	99.6	99.4	100.0	74.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	245.0	249.9	91.3	83.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	93.2
Hispanic	226.4	218.8	79.5	73.7	99.7	99.8	100.0	77.3
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	84.6
With Disabilities	205.9	197.1	71.8	69.4	99.1	98.5	100.0	43.1
Limited English Proficient	219.9	213.5	77.0	71.4	99.8	100.0	100.0	70.5
Subsidized Meals	222.8	213.5	78.6	72.9	99.4	99.4	100.0	70.8
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (State)							4/27/2015	2301078
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Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies* / History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	643.8	644.3	626.4	645.0	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	638.9	643.9	627.0	646.5	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Female	649.0	644.6	625.8	643.4	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
White	659.5	662.7	644.4	659.5	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
African American	622.3	617.3	601.2	624.1	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	669.9	686.6	655.9	673.4	99.9	100.0	99.8	N/A
Hispanic	631.7	634.6	614.5	636.5	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	642.1	640.4	627.1	641.8	99.7	99.9	99.5	N/A
With Disabilities	599.3	596.5	587.6	609.2	98.9	99.5	99.5	N/A
Limited English Proficient	631.2	638.6	615.0	638.1	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
Subsidized Meals	627.7	625.2	609.4	628.7	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Migrant	608.2	615.1	590.4	623.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 6 - 8								
All Students	627.8	632.2	634.7	637.4	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
Male	620.6	630.1	634.4	639.8	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Female	635.4	634.3	635.0	634.9	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
White	644.3	647.7	652.3	652.3	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
African American	604.3	608.5	608.9	615.2	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	658.5	680.2	673.0	677.3	99.9	99.9	99.9	N/A
Hispanic	617.3	625.4	625.0	630.5	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	629.4	631.2	637.2	638.3	99.9	99.8	99.7	N/A
With Disabilities	574.5	584.3	584.9	592.8	99.4	99.4	99.2	N/A
Limited English Proficient	612.5	625.8	622.5	629.8	99.6	99.7	99.8	N/A
Subsidized Meals	610.0	614.6	616.3	619.9	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Migrant	586.4	606.8	600.8	607.7	98.2	98.2	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 9 - 12								
All Students	229.3	222.6	81.8	74.9	98.7	98.7	100.0	80.0
Male	225.6	222.4	81.8	75.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	75.7
Female	233.2	222.9	81.9	74.0	99.2	99.1	100.0	84.5
White	235.9	230.8	86.1	78.1	99.0	98.9	100.0	82.8
African American	219.6	209.6	75.2	69.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	76.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	240.2	245.8	89.4	80.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	88.0
Hispanic	225.1	219.4	79.5	73.5	98.9	99.0	100.0	76.9
American Indian/Alaskan	228.8	220.3	81.9	77.2	98.9	99.3	100.0	74.3
With Disabilities	204.3	196.5	68.4	66.2	96.6	96.5	100.0	43.2
Limited English Proficient	218.0	214.7	76.6	71.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	73.4
Subsidized Meals	221.1	212.6	76.8	70.8	98.3	98.2	100.0	72.5
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.5
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

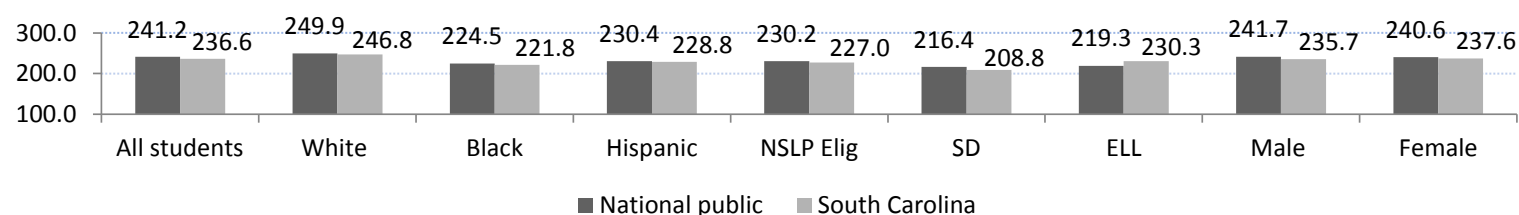
* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level.

Reading - Grade 4 (2013)



Mathematics - Grade 4 (2013)



Reading - Grade 8 (2013)



Mathematics - Grade 8 (2013)



Key

NSLP National school lunch program

SD Student with disabilities

ELL English language learner

NAEP National Association of Education Progress

	SD Participation Rate	ELL Participation Rate
Reading, Grade 4	89.0%	96.0%
Reading, Grade 8	85.0%	96.0%
Mathematics, Grade 4	93.0%	99.0%
Mathematics, Grade 8	90.0%	95.0%

Our School

Number of recently arrived ELL students exempted from ELA in state assessments

5

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample